

Archæology.

425. Owing to the perishable materials of construction the Burmese ordinarily employ, there are few architectural remains in the province of any archæological importance. Crumbling ruins of ancient

Architectural remains.

pagodas are scattered through the length and breadth of the land, but, with the exception of the great national monuments at Rangoon, Pegu, and Prome,—each the capital of a pristine dynasty and kingdom,—they rarely possess anything but the scantiest local interest. Traces of old fortifications are found in all the country of the Taleings, and implements of pottery and metal are not unfrequently brought to light; but special science is required for their utilization in exploring the unsounded abysses of ancient peninsular history.

426. An extract from the annual report of the secluded district of Sandoway may not prove inappropriate under this head:—

Sandoway district.

“Two stone inscriptions have been discovered,—one in the jungle near the village of Byee-wah, containing an old Buddhist couplet in the Sanskrit (or Pali) character; the other, a small tablet bearing similar characters, was dug out of a low hill close to the village of Ngaloanmaw, in the Kwayloo circle, Northern township. Silver coins struck

Coins.

by ancient Kings of Arakan are to be met with in some households, hung as charms or ornaments round necks of children. On most of these coins, the dates and names of the Kings, in Burmese characters, are the same on either side; but of the earlier ones the reverse contains unintelligible Persian and Nagari characters. Another smaller coin, of the same primitive character and workmanship, may be assigned to a very early dynasty of Arakan Kings (the Vaisali), who reigned from A.D. 788 to 957. On the obverse of this is a caparisoned bull, couchant, above which is the King's title; on the reverse appear the sun, crescent moon, and trident. The coin is the size of a four-anna piece. Celts, or stone implements of the smooth

Implements.

(Neolithic age) are apparently abundant throughout the district; they are found in the beds of streams, or in hill clearings of *tounqua* cultivators. They are fashioned from different kinds of stone, such as schists, greenstone, basalt, and hornstone. They comprise adzes with and without shoulders, each with a cutting-edge like a chisel; and axes with a cutting-edge like that of a knife. Some of the adzes are of great size.”

VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

280. The following is a brief outline written by Dr. Forchhammer, the Government Archæologist, of the work done during the year by him and his assistant.

During the rainy season of the year 1884 the archæological survey of the Prome district was continued whenever the weather permitted out-door work. In addition to the operations alluded to in last year's report, the archæological remains to the north and north-east of the city of Prome were investigated. Several new specimens of stone sculptures were found to the north of the old town of Srikahatra. One represents Buddha in the usual sitting attitude, but is provided with four arms. Inscribed stones are generally found near these sculptures, but they have been used for generations as whet-stones and the letters have become obliterated. Of particular interest is the Parama pagoda at the north-west corner of the town. It is one of the four still standing shrines whose erection is ascribed to King Dvattabaung. We collected there a number of bricks with letters of a very ancient form impressed on them. There are many natural and artificial caves in the hills south-east of Prome. In one the walls, which form the inner coating of the cave, are covered with painting illustrating Jātaka stories. One of the oldest antiquities in the Prome district is the foot-print of Gotama in the jungle near Shinbinpelet close to the boundary of the Thayet district. The pagodas of Thankkyama and Myaywa were also visited.

281. During rainy days we copied and translated native historical records bearing on the history of Prome and Thayetmyo; we also prepared descriptive catalogues of the principal libraries found in these quarters. Upwards of 1,200 different Pāli and Burmese works have been catalogued. The richest collection of books is in Shwedaung, in the monastery of the venerable priest U Kin. After the close of the rainy season we visited, travelling along the left-hand bank of the Irrawaddy, all places of archæological interest from Prome to the frontier. Of some historical importance are the remains of the city walls of old Myawadi, the shrines of Nyaungbinzeik, Kamagala, Palo (also the site of an ancient town), Butle, and the fort and pagodas of Myede.

282. The shrines in the town of Thayetmyo and vicinity occupied us for two days; the decorative designs on the Shwethethlut and Shwemuttaw pagodas are worthy of notice. We then visited the Swedaw and Andapara in the wild and picturesque solitude of the upper course of the Pun stream. On the way from Thayetmyo to Mindon no remains were found except the small shrines at Bankun and Mindat. Mindon is covered with pagodas, chiefly peculiar for the variety of architectural styles they represent. Mindon is an ancient place and occurs in the older native records as Bhumavati, the Matun river as the Samantanadi. Kama is also the site of an old town said to have been founded 2,000 years ago; it has a number of interesting pagodas; unique are the rock-cut shrines and hermit caves on the hills west of the town; in one of the latter (they are all artificial) the date of its completion is given as Sakkaraj 583 A.D. 1172.

283. The work in the Prome and Thayetmyo districts was finished in December. During January and February we visited most places in the Rangoon, Thongwa, Bassein, and Pegu districts possessing noteworthy temples or other objects of archæological interest. We endeavoured in particular to trace the sites of former Portuguese settlements, and the remains of the 82 cities of Kusimanadala (Bassein) erected during the reign of the Queen Ummadandi. Old Talaing and Burmese inscriptions were found about Bassein, and numerous specimens of ancient Mon pottery and tiles collected. The pagodas of Tunte, the remains of the city of Dalanagara, the ornamental plaster casts on shrines in Yandoon, the peculiar Tavattimsa pagoda in Pantanaw, the secluded shrine at Mintaru, the ruins of Muttawaddi, Thidamyo, Kusimanagara (to the south of Bassein) with its ancient image-houses, and the Agyawseyapara deserve particular mention.

234. In the middle of March we ascended the valley of the Kyaukhaunggalè stream, visited Thidamyo, Zingadigôn, and reached the Gwa river, passing over the Punzogyi pass; then we proceeded by land to Sandoway. Between the latter place and Gwa we may mention Myogwin and Myochaung as the sites of old towns. It was disappointing not to find a trace of the ancient city of Dvāravati (now Sandoway) mentioned by Ptolemy and Hiuen Tsang. The remains of the fort and royal palace upon which a portion of the town is built dates from the time of the Talaing occupation of Arakan. In Sandoway begins the influence of the Mahomedan architectural style on Buddhist shrines; the hemispherical cupola of the mosque often replaces the tapering spire of the Burmese pagoda.

235. The Akyab district contains the most important remains in British Burma by virtue of their age, structural skill exhibited, and elaborateness of decorative designs; stone architecture supersedes here the brick structures of the Irrawaddy valley. We visited Urittaung, Miubya, Kado, Launggyet, Mahati, Padaw, Myohaung, Paragyi, Kyaukdaw, Mahamuni, Rathedaung, and Busidaung, making Akyab the starting point for excursions up the Lemro, Kaladan, and Myn rivers.

236. The inscriptions of Arakan will, I think, adjust the dispute regarding the origin of the Burmese alphabet. Some scholars consider it a development of the Northern Asoka letters, others an offshoot of the old Dravidian alphabet. The lithic monuments of Arakan were likely to furnish the intermediate phases of development. The Sanskrit inscriptions found are either very old, dating back to the beginning of our era, or very modern (middle of 17th century), and the letters coincide with those found on the Buddhist railings in Buddhagaya and the more modern inscriptions of the same place. These Nagari inscriptions in Arakan were engraved by Hindu workmen. The oldest stone-inscriptions in Akyab written in the Burmese alphabet are only from four to five centuries old. The shape of the letters and the peculiar mode of spelling clearly shows that they were borrowed from the Talaings. The Arakanese have not adopted or developed a peculiar alphabet, but borrowed directly, either from their eastern or western neighbours, their letters and even their idioms; not a single lithic record has been found written in the Arakanese dialect. On the hill range west of Palo are ideographic rock sculptures of very ancient date; they are probably prehistoric and must be attributed to wild hill tribes who lived south of Myohaung before the rise of the Buddhist dynasty of Dhaññavati.

237. From the inscriptions and old palm-leaf manuscripts I was enabled to gather valuable information bearing on the ancient history and geography of British Burma.

238. Plans, photographs, and drawings have been prepared of all important sites, typical structures, ornamental designs, and inscriptions found in the districts visited. A number of valuable historical manuscripts procured during my travels were either purchased or copied in my office in Rangoon under the able superintendence of my assistant, Taw Sain Ko; he also gave me valuable help by furnishing me with some translations of not only modern inscriptions and palm-leaves, but also of older lithic records, which he himself had succeeded in deciphering.

1890-91

VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

282. No Archæological work was done during the year, the post of Government Archæologist, which was rendered vacant by the lamented death of the late Dr. Forchhammer, having remained vacant. On Dr. Forchhammer's death his collections were examined and it was found that he had left a number of photographs, impressions of inscriptions, plans and other materials for the reports on the antiquities of Burma which he had projected. Since the close of the year these collections have been entrusted to Mr. Taw Sein Ko, a good Pali and Burmese scholar, for the purpose of publishing the various photographs and impressions of inscriptions left by Dr. Forchhammer and of elucidating them by notes and commentaries. Mr. Taw Sein Ko is at present engaged on this work and will, it is hoped, have completed it in the course of the next few months.

1891-92

VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

318. The appointment of Government Archæologist remained vacant in 1891-92. Mr. Taw Sein Kho, Translator to Government, was employed during the year in editing the late Dr. Forchhammer's remains. The work performed by Mr. Taw Sein Kho consisted in publishing the "Kalyani" inscriptions of Pegu, with a translation and notes; in transcribing and publishing a volume of miscellaneous inscriptions; and in translating and annotating the "Po U Daung" inscriptions of Prome.

1892-93

VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

363. The remains of the late Dr. Forchhammer, edited by Mr. Taw Sein Kho, were published in 1892-93. These consisted of a work on Arakanese antiquities and a note on the Kyaukku temple at Prome. The question of appointing an Archæological Officer for Burma was considered during the year. After its close Major Temple, of the Burma Commission, accepted the appointment of Honorary Archæological Officer. His duties consist in generally controlling and promoting archæological research in Burma.

1893-94

VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

283. During the year under report Burma was visited by Dr. Führer, Archæological Surveyor, North-Western Provinces, who was deputed by the Government of India to visit and report on the principal archæological remains in the province. Dr. Führer arrived in Burma at the beginning of November and was engaged during the three following months in touring through the province and visiting archæological remains. He was accompanied by Mr. Oertel, of the North-Western Provinces Public Works Department, who is preparing a work on Burmese architecture. Dr. Führer is now engaged in drawing up a report of his work in Burma. This report will form a basis for future explorations in the little known field of Burmese archæology.

The appointment of Honorary Archæological Officer was held for the greater part of the year by Major Temple, C.I.E. On Major Temple's departure on leave he was succeeded in the appointment by Mr. Taw Sein Kho, Translator to Government. The archæological work done during the year by Major Temple consisted mainly in the examination and collection of inscriptions and in the preparation of an Index of Burmese inscriptions.

1894-95

VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

309. Dr. Führer, Archæological Surveyor, North-Western Provinces, who visited the province last year, has only completed a portion of his report, namely, a *résumé* of his researches in Burmese archæology which was embodied in the annual progress report of the Archæological Survey circle, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, for the year ending the 30th June 1894. He is still engaged on the preparation of a revised list of a chæological and architectural remains of the province, and on a larger work to be called the "Monumental Antiquities and Inscriptions in Burma." The question of appointing an Archæological Officer for Burma was again under consideration during the year, but no definite proposals could be made until the complete reports of Dr. Führer and Mr. Oertel had been received and considered in consultation with Dr. Hultzsch, the Government Epigraphist.

The appointment of Honorary Archæological Officer was held throughout the year by Mr. Taw Sein Ko, Government Translator. The archæological work done during the year mainly consisted in the printing of the collection of inscriptions of the Arakan Pagoda, Mandalay, made by Major Temple, and in the collection by Mr. Taw Sein Ko at Mònywa of more inscriptions, the supply of which appears, at present, to be inexhaustible. The preparation of the Index of Burmese inscriptions was continued.

1895-96

VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

275. The appointment of Honorary Archæological Officer was held throughout the year by Mr. Taw Sein Ko, Translator to Government. He visited Prome, Pagan, Mandalay, and Sagaing, and discovered a number of valuable inscriptions. He was engaged in researches into the origin and development of the Burmese alphabet as indicated by epigraphical evidence. Owing to want of leisure the Honorary Archæological Officer was unable to make much progress in the preparation of the index of Burmese inscriptions, and the work of the year mainly consisted of the printing of the inscriptions of the Arakan Pagoda, Mandalay, and the decipherment and transcription of the additional inscriptions collected. Until a paid Officer is appointed, archæological work will continue to be executed in an intermittent manner. It has been proposed to appoint the Archæologist to be also Curator of the Phayre Museum when it is converted into a provincial museum under Government control. Both matters are still under consideration.

When the year closed Dr. Führer's Revised list of archæological and architectural remains of the Province, and his larger work on the "Monumental Antiquities and Inscriptions in Burma" had not been completed. Their completion, which has long been expected, is awaited with interest.

1897-98

VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

252. Mr. Taw Sein Ko returned from China at the beginning of the year 1898, and resumed charge of the office of Honorary Archæological Officer from Māng Tun Nyein, Officiating Government Translator. Any expectation of the receipt or completion of Dr. Führer's revised list of archæological and architectural remains of the province, and his "Monumental antiquities and inscriptions of Burma" has been dissipated as practically nothing has been done. Proposals for the re-organization of the Archæological Department as well as the conversion of the Phayre Museum into a provincial institution will now have to be formulated independently of the expert advice of the learned Professor. The inscriptions collected by Colonel Temple and Mr. Taw Sein Ko have been deciphered and printed, and two volumes have been issued, the third being in the press. The volume of miscellaneous inscriptions collected by the late Dr. Forchhammer has been translated, with annotations, and will shortly be published.

In the course of the year two silver coins each were found in Shadaw village, Shwebo district, and in the Taungdwingyi subdivision, Magwe district. The Superintendent of the Indian Museum, Calcutta, to whom the articles were submitted for inspection, reports that they are symbolical coins of a new type, and "accordingly are of considerable numismatic value." The discovery of an inscribed stone at the Gókteik gorge in the Shan State of Thónzè was reported, and the railway authorities have undertaken to preserve it *in situ*. When this inscription is deciphered, it is hoped that it will throw light on the political relations between Burma and China.

1898-99

VIII.—Archæology.

261. The establishment of an Archæological Department for Burma was sanctioned by the Secretary of State for India, and Mr. Taw Sein Ko entered upon his duties as Government Archæologist on the 17th May 1899. The work to be done may be divided into two heads:—

- (a) the collection, decipherment, translation, and annotation of inscriptions;
- (b) the conservation of ancient monuments of historical or archæological interest.

The work which will have to be accomplished under the first head, in the immediate future, consists of the translation and annotation of the two volumes of the Arakan Pagoda Inscriptions, and of the volume of inscriptions which is now being published. It is also proposed to arrange for the compilation of an Index Inscriptionum Birmanicarum and of Palæographical tables illustrating the evolution of the Burmese alphabet. Besides this, there is a wide field of work in the collection of the numerous inscriptions which are scattered over the country, while much remains to be done in elucidating and explaining, from a historical point of view, the inscriptions already collected.

Under the second head there are three stages of work to be done, namely—

- (i) to prepare the initial lists of buildings of historical or archæological interest;
- (ii) to examine these lists in order to select those buildings which are worthy of preservation;
- (iii) to decide finally what buildings shall be preserved, and to take the necessary steps for their conservation.

What has so far been accomplished in the province, except Arakan, is the first stage. The lists for that division were revised by Dr. Forchhammer. In the meantime, under the provisions of Section 539 of the Code of Civil Procedure, trusts have been constituted in respect of the principal pagodas, and their conservation has thus been provided for. In the case of buildings which are considered worthy of conservation, but whose conservation cannot be effected by local effort alone, it is proposed to make an annual money grant to the trustees as a contribution towards their maintenance in proper repair. In pursuance of this policy an annual grant, not exceeding Rs. 500, was sanctioned as a contribution to the maintenance in repair of the Thabyinnyu and Gawdawpalin Pagodas at Pagan. The Thabyinnyu is 201 feet high and was built by King Alaungsithu in 1100 A.D. The Gawdawpalin is 180 feet high and was built by King Narapatisithu in 1160 A.D. These two temples and the Ananda form a unique triad both from a historical and architectural point of view. In them is enshrined the progressive development of Buddhism as modified by converging influences from Northern and Southern India, Ceylon, Thibet, and Cambodia; and a minute study of them would probably solve some of the vexed questions of Burmese history, and would also throw some light on the early history of Buddhism in India with special reference to its gradual absorption by the neo-Brahmanic systems of faith.

The question of converting the Phayre Museum into a provincial institution is still under the consideration of a Committee specially appointed for the purpose, and definite proposals are being matured.

Under the Indian Treasure Trove Act, VI of 1878, the discovery of objects of antiquarian interest has to be reported to the Local Government. Such objects were, in former years, sent to Calcutta to be deposited in the Indian Museum. Now that a Provincial Museum is to be established in Rangoon, they will be retained in the province.

In the Shwebo district, 34 silver coins were found, of which four were sent to the Superintendent, Indian Museum, for examination and report on their numismatic or historical value. The Superintendent says that they belong to a class

commonly known as symbolical coins from Arakan, described by Sir Arthur P. Phayre in his "Coins of Arakan, Pegu and Burma," and adds that "the historical value of the coins is extremely doubtful, but they are probably of considerable antiquity." The remaining 30 coins have been deposited in the Phayre Museum.

At Mònywa in the Lower Chindwin district, a number of images were found in the relic-chambers of some old pagodas, and have all been transferred to the Phayre Museum. In the Akyab district, four "symbolical coins" were found; and the Superintendent, Indian Museum, reports that they are "scarcely much later than 800 A.D." A square silver coin with Chinese characters was discovered in the Myingyan district and has been deposited in the Phayre Museum. It was evidently used as a coin in lieu of sycee or silver ingots, which pass current in the inland provinces of China. It bears the following legend: "The 10th moon of the eighth year of the reign of Chia Ch'ing (*i.e.*, 1804 A.D.)." It purports to have been issued by Chiu, Prince of Hei Ching. "Hei Ching" means a "black pit or mine" and is apparently the name of some locality in Yünnan.

Relics of Gaudama Buddha were discovered by Mr. W. Peppè near Piprahwa, a village in the Basti district on the border of Nepal, and were offered by the Government of India to the King of Siam, on condition that His Majesty would not object to distribute a portion to the Buddhists of Burma and Ceylon. As the relics appear to be the actual share obtained by the Sakyas of Kapilavastu at the time of the cremation of Gaudama Buddha, intense interest was aroused in the Buddhist world. An account of the discovery illustrated by plans and drawings, which appeared in the Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society for July 1898, was republished in English and Burmese in the *Burma Gazette*, and then reproduced in pamphlet form. It has been decided that the share of relics assigned to Burma shall be deposited at the Shwe Dagôn Pagoda, Rangoon, and the Arakan Pagoda, Mandalay.

In conducting archæological researches in future, it will be necessary to resort to excavation. The Eleventh Oriental Congress, which was held at Paris in 1897, asked the Local Government to have excavations made under competent supervision on the sites of ancient towns in Burma. In compliance with this request, excavations may, with advantage, be made at Tagaung, Yazagyo, Pagan, Prome, Taungdwingyi, Ava, Pegu and Thatôn, and also at Myohaung in Arakan. Care should, however, be taken not to break down or damage pagodas, which are still objects of worship, or to wound the religious susceptibilities of the people in the neighbourhood.

1899-1900

VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

269. The appointment of Government Archæologist was held throughout the year by Mr. Taw Sein Ko, who also officiated as Adviser on Chinese Affairs.

During the year, the attention of the Archæological Department was mainly devoted to the conservation of ancient monuments of historical or antiquarian interest. The sum of Rs. 5,000 was allotted for the purpose in the budget of the Public Works Department, and steps were taken for the preservation, against vandalism, of the pagodas and other antiquarian remains at Pagan. It has been proposed that 127 pagodas of that township should be conserved by State agency, that these buildings should be divided into eight groups, and that ten care-takers, costing Rs. 83 per mensem, should be entertained to look after them and inspect them at regular intervals. There is not much probability that the temples of Pagan will be despoiled of its frescoes or other objects of art by the natives of the country, as there is no market for such sacrilegious spoils in the province itself. The risk of spoliation lies in the visits of European adventurers, who know that any object of antiquarian interest, they may purloin, will find eager purchasers at Berlin, Paris, Vienna, or St. Petersburg. While proposals have been made for the custody of the Pagan temples, the Public Works Department has been asked to construct masonry sheds for the storage of inscriptions at Pagan, Sagaing, and Tagaung. Some of the inscriptions, on account of their great size and weight, will be preserved *in situ*, while the majority of them will be removed to the central sheds.

In April last, permission was granted to Mr. R. C. J. Swinhoe, Solicitor, Mandalay, and Major Nichols, R.A.M.C., to make excavations at Tagaung in search of inscriptions. A mound in the neighbourhood of the Shwezigôn pagoda was opened, and a stone inscription broken in three pieces was found. The largest piece is used as a cover to a relic-chamber, which is intact, and the inscription bears date 1354 A.D. It was set up by Thadominbya, the founder of Ava, when he was Governor of Tagaung. In the relic-chamber the following articles were found:—

Eighteen small images of Buddha, one of crystal and the rest of brass, together with a quantity of relics, consisting mainly of small pieces of "calcareous gravel and sheep's teeth."

One small polished jade-stone.

One round crystal bead.

One smaller crystal bead.

Three moonstones.

One amber *nadaung*.

One flat moss agate.

Eight pearls.

Six amber beads.

Ninety-three stones consisting of rubies, spinels, &c.

Five small pieces of malachite.

Six small sapphires.

Three greenish crystals.

Small bits of rubies, &c.

Three small rings.

One small brass dish.

One needle.

One small white China basin.

One green stone.

Two gold beads.

Two small silver dishes.

A number of votive tablets of baked clay with Sanskrit legends were also found.

The find is an important one from a historical point of view, as it indicates the ascendancy of Chinese influence at the period of building the pagoda, which is certainly subsequent to 1354 A.D. The "round crystal bead" is the Chinese button worn on the cap and is the insignia of official rank. The "small white China basin" is of exquisite crockery, and is probably the product of the famous kilns of Kwei-lin in the province of Kwei-chou.

A branch office was opened at Pagan in January last, with a view to collecting materials for a detailed archæological survey. It was engaged upon the following work:—

- (1) The preparation of a map of Pagan showing the locality of the existing pagodas.
- (2) The preparation of another map of Pagan showing the locality of 127 pagodas, which are to be placed in the custody of care-takers paid by Government.
- (3) The compilation of a register of the above buildings and of the articles of antiquarian interest contained in each, requiring special care and attention.
- (4) Researches into the origin of serpent-worship and *nat*-worship in pre-Buddhistic times.
- (5) An enquiry into the introduction of a debased form of Northern Buddhism and its struggle for supremacy with the form of Southern Buddhism introduced into Thatôn from Ceylon.
- (6) An investigation into the origin of the different shapes and forms of pagodas.
- (7) The preparation of a list of pagodas in chronological order.
- (8) The preparation of plans, measurements, and drawings of the celebrated pagodas of Pagan.
- (9) The compilation of a history of Pagan in the light of modern research with special reference to the change of capitals.
- (10) The preparation of copies of the frescoes in the temples by means of photography or by tracing on oil-cloth or tissue paper.
- (11) The copying of such manuscripts as are of use to the Archæological Department.
- (12) The drawing up of a list of mounds and pagodas in ruins, which should be excavated.

The main office at Rangoon was engaged upon the following work:—

- (1) The compilation of an Index Inscriptionum Birmanicarum, of which Volume I has been published.
- (2) The translation and annotation of the two volumes of the Arakan Pagoda Inscriptions.
- (3) The compilation of palæographical tables illustrating the evolution of the Burmese alphabet.

Under the orders of the Local Government, the Archæological Department is preparing a list of the buildings, tombs, monuments, &c., in Burma, of archæological and historical interest, which, it is considered, should be conserved by Government. As the question of conservation of these buildings, which exist not only at Pagan, but also at Ava, Sagaing, Mandalay, Tagaung, Prome, Pegu, Toungoo, Thatôn, Moulmein, and in many parts of Arakan, comprises (a) custody, (b) preservation, (c) restoration, and (d) illustration, it has been proposed that a selected officer of the Public Works Department should be appointed Inspector of Ancient Monuments in order to assist the Government Archæologist in the general supervision and guardianship of the many historic remains existing all over the province.

Definite proposals have been made by the Committee appointed to consider the question of establishing a Provincial Museum. It is estimated that the cost of constructing the building on the model of the Lahore Museum will be about 5½ lakhs of rupees. A valuable piece of land situated between the

Agri-Horticultural Society's Gardens and Godwin road has been acquired by Government under the Land Acquisition Act of 1894, the amount of compensation paid being Rs. 1,14,443-12-0. To this amount will have to be added a further sum which will have to be given as compensation to the Trustees of the land granted to the Agri-Horticultural Society, for giving up to Government for the erection of the Museum the portion of the garden land stretching from the newly acquired land in Godwin road eastward to a point opposite Latter street. The land at the disposal of the Committee for the erection of the Provincial Museum is thus bounded on the north by Commissioner's road, on the east by a projection of Latter street to Commissioner's road, on the south by the canal, and on the west by Godwin road. The building will face north, and the Phayre statue will be removed from its present position and placed in front of it. It has been suggested that a bridge should be thrown over the canal in continuation of Latter street, that the canal itself should be turned into an ornamental sheet of water, and that seats should be provided on its banks for the use of the public.

It has been proposed that the Bernard Free Library should be amalgamated with the Provincial Museum, and that the latter should consist of the following departments :—

- (a) Archæology ;
- (b) Art ;
- (c) Economic products ;
- (d) Natural history ; and
- (e) Library.

The management of the Museum will be vested in a Committee, and each of the departments will be supervised by a member of that Committee. The Government Archæologist will be placed in charge of the first department, and he will be appointed Curator of the Museum as well as Secretary to the Museum Committee.